

Upstate Institute at Colgate University

Fall 2005 Newsletter

Upstate Institute Field School

Hamilton Central School Elementary Foreign Language Program

In 2004, a motivated and dedicated group of parents, Colgate professors and students, and faculty at Hamilton Central School (HCS) piloted an after-school foreign language program for



Senior Becky Armstrong works with Hamilton Central School Principal Steve Winschel. (photo by Tim Sofranko)

children in grades K-3. Colgate senior Becky Armstrong spent the summer working with Hamilton Central School Principal Steven Winschel to bring definition and organization to this program in the hopes of making it part of the HCS curriculum in the future. The goal of this program is to expose elementary students, regardless of socio-economic status, to either French or Spanish. A plethora of studies indicate the many benefits of foreign language exposure at a young age, such as an increased chance of fluency and improvement in standardized test scores in other academic areas. Foreign language skills are becoming increasingly important in today's global economy and knowledge of more than one language will be a common requirement when today's elementary students enter the job market. Armstrong's work this summer included

identifying sources of funding for the program, redesigning the introductory level language lessons and creating pronunciation guides for parents. Armstrong also worked with the Department of Romances Languages & Literature to ensure that some of the department's class requirements include assisting with the program in some capacity, such as curriculum design, recording CDs, building a program website, or teaching the children.

Opportunities for Chenango

Bullthistle Rag Enterprise is an economic development program that provides business development services to microentrepreneurs in Chenango County who have difficulty accessing traditional services due to financial constraints. Bullthistle Rag Enterprise is a part of Opportunities for Chenango, a Community Action agency in Norwich, New York. Some of the services that Bullthistle Rag Enterprise provides include business plan development, technical assistance, workshops, low-interest loans to provide start-up or expansion capital, and a textile and fiber arts incubator in which craftspeople can

Upstate Institute Mission Statement

The mission of the Institute is to create linkages between Colgate University and the regional community to engage students, faculty, staff and residents in research and a reciprocal transfer of knowledge that will enhance the economic, social and cultural capacity of the area and sustain the environment. These projects provide a model of community collaboration and civic engagement for our students and within higher education. The Institute values scholarly collaboration as a way to support the region.



Emily Crantz worked with Opportunities for Chenango, a Community Action agency in Norwich. (photo by Tim Sofranko)

access looms, sewing machines and raw materials. Junior Emily Crantz worked with Opportunities for Chenango to find potential funding sources and complete grant applications for the Bullthistle Rag program. She also assisted with a survey on the housing market in Chenango County for the Housing Services Program. The data from this survey will be used to help Housing Services advocate for fair market rents in the area.

Earlville Opera House

The mission of the Earlville Opera House (EOH) is to reach people in rural New York and to envelop them in a dense and exciting cultural scene. Sophomore Alicia Gleason worked at the Opera House to promote volunteerism and to cultivate a genuine interest in the arts in Earlville and surrounding areas. She developed and



Alicia Gleason worked at the Earlville Opera House to cultivate a genuine interest in the arts in the greater community. (photo by Tim Sofranko)

From the Director

Connecting student research with community needs is one of the primary goals of the Upstate Institute. As highlighted in this newsletter, such projects have wonderful outcomes for our students. Students get an opportunity to use their liberal arts skills – writing, critical thinking, public speaking, information acquisition – in the “real world.” They see how important these skills are to their own success and to affecting change in their communities. In addition, these projects are excellent opportunities for career exploration.

The Upstate Field School – piloted this summer with 14 student/organization pairs thanks to a generous seed gift from Doug and Sandra Campbell – links students with local organizations to develop and implement projects that will have a positive impact on the community. Students work in a variety of organizations, from health care to environmental protection and economic development. Their projects included policy research, training development, historical research, artistic creations, and data analysis. At the end of their Field School experiences, students felt stronger links to the community and a deep passion for their organizations and projects.

Another exciting initiative is the October 22nd induction of the first members of the National Abolition Hall of Fame. The NAHOF, located in the hamlet of Peterboro, serves as a place to honor people who have worked toward the goal of ending discrimination, while reminding us that this work is unfinished. For the first induction, five prominent abolitionists will be celebrated through music and drama. Colgate students have played an integral role in the research, production, and performance for this event. Their participation will not only ensure that the induction is a dynamic event, but also links them to the rich history of the region.

The NAHOF induction helps kick-off an exciting year of projects for the Institute. Student fellows continue to work and learn in the community, faculty continue to become engaged in regional research, and community organizations continue to share in this knowledge and bring their own expertise to the table. I also look forward to several conferences that will be sponsored by the Institute this year.

*Jill Tiefenthaler
Director, Upstate Institute
Professor of Economics*

redesigned certain aspects of the EOH website so that it captures attention, spreads the word about volunteer opportunities, upcoming events, and children's programs, and gives the public a chance to constructively criticize the EOH and its programs. She also worked with the Opera House's board of directors to find alternative sources of revenue, such as grants, fundraisers, new programs, and a longer season.

Southern Madison Heritage Trust

Senior Katie Flood worked with the Southern Madison Heritage Trust (SMHT) to create a natural resource database this summer. The SMHT was formed to conserve natural resources such as land, water, unique habitats, scenic landscapes, recreational sites and historic features for public benefit in Madison County. Flood used GIS software to perform computer analysis and produce maps of the municipally owned lands in the six-township area of Georgetown, Eaton, Madison, Hamilton, Lebanon and Brookfield. By analyzing real property tax data, satellite photography, land use classification data, and digital orthophotos, Flood created reference files to aid effective conservation efforts by the SMHT in the future.

Hamilton Obstetrics & Gynecology

Susan Taffe is both a Colgate senior and a birth doula who received training through Doulas of North America. This summer, she developed a program called Bright Beginnings, which provides free doula services to patients of Hamilton



Susan Taffe assists with a birth as part of Bright Beginnings. (photo by Tim Sofranko)

Obstetrics and Gynecology. A birth doula is a knowledgeable, caring, professionally trained woman who provides physical, emotional, and informational support to a woman and her partner during labor and birth in order to support the birthing couple in having as comfortable a birth as possible. Her work with local patients included several prenatal home visits to help them create a birth plan. During labor, Taffe uses relaxation techniques with the mother that include massage, counter pressure, breathing techniques, music, application of heat and cold and concentration techniques.



Lauren Johnston takes part in the Civil War Weekend in Peterboro to promote the National Abolition Hall of Fame. (photo by Tim Sofranko)

National Abolition Hall of Fame

The National Abolition Hall of Fame aims to honor those who worked to accomplish the legal abolition of slavery and promote the work of those who are trying to accomplish the unfinished moral abolition of slavery. Junior Lauren Johnston worked with the Cabinet of Freedom, which is the Smithfield Community Association's committee created to launch the Hall of Fame, to promote and organize both the Hall of Fame and the first annual Induction Ceremony. Johnston developed promotional materials such as a brochure, display, PowerPoint presentation, and a press kit, and helped present the mission of the Hall of Fame to local groups.

The Exhibition Alliance

Senior Tim Hogarth spent the summer producing an educational DVD about proper fine art storage

for The Exhibition Alliance. The idea for the DVD resulted from a recent survey conducted by The Exhibition Alliance, with technical support from the Upstate Institute. The survey was sent to a large number of organizations, museums, and galleries in New York regarding art storage facilities and projected storage needs. Many participating organizations indicated an interest in learning more about storage techniques. Hogarth included footage from various museums and organizations including Museum of Modern Art, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the Corning Museum of Glass on the DVD, and provided information on storing various types of art, from paintings to textiles. The DVD will be marketed to museums, galleries, cultural organizations and other institutions that have art storage concerns, in the hopes that it will provide information necessary for the conservation of their collections.



John Steigerwald at the Lorenzo House in Cazenovia. (photo by Tim Sofranko)

Lorenzo House

Lorenzo House is a recently renovated, architecturally significant building with an intact collection of art and furnishings in Cazenovia, New York, owned by the New York State Historic Trust. Junior John Steigerwald spent the summer assembling a guide to the estate's art collection that will be used as a reference for docents giving tours. Because of the large number of paintings at the estate, the guide is focused on noteworthy paintings of interest to visitors, primarily 19th century American art by artists such as Sanford Gifford and Samuel F.B. Morse. The guide includes information on where each piece fits into a general timeline of art history, what distinguishes the painting, and how the piece is related to the history of the house and its occupants.

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Senior Tara LaLonde worked with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) to digitally archive aerial photos of southern Madison County in order to examine reforestation. Reforestation has been occurring in Madison County since the mid 1930s, when farmers began to shift agricultural production away from unsuitable lands. Though agriculture has been the primary land use in Madison County, there continues to be a decline in the number and acreage of farms, which enables the regrowth of forests. This project investigated whether soil quality could play a role in a farmer's decision to cultivate or revegetate the land. In order to examine reforestation, historic black and white aerial photos from the NYSDEC were scanned and georeferenced to digitally preserve them and make them more useful for the NYSDEC and other organizations that seek historical knowledge about land cover and land use. This type of information on the timing and extent of reforestation will aid the NYSDEC in forest management policies.



Tara LaLonde digitally archived aerial photos for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. (photo by Tim Sofranko)

From the COVE Director

As a parent and a member of the early foreign language committee of Hamilton Central School, I am very gratified to be able to build upon the success of one of the Upstate Field School fellows. Becky Armstrong, long known to us at the COVE as a stellar community builder, worked at the school this summer to develop a long-term strategy for introducing foreign language study into the lives of young children.

After several years of parent-driven, volunteer-staffed instruction that was necessarily limited to small numbers, the COVE has been able to use Becky's work as a template for including Colgate foreign language students into the mix. John Gallucci's French 361 and Pilar Mejia-Barrera's Spanish 201 classes are incorporating the Early Foreign Language Clubs into their curricula. The service learning elements of the classes include planning lessons, using technology, exploration of how young children develop language skills, and the creative teaching of children. For Colgate students going on to study abroad, this experience will allow for a smoother transition into the foreign schools where many of them will teach.

To date, nearly 40 Colgate students serve as teachers and 70 elementary students (40% of eligible K – 3 students) are participating in the program, which focuses on learning language through song, drama, games and fun activities. While we still rely on dedicated parents and staff like Georgia Frank, Nancy Schult, Anne Pitcher and Sarah Lewis, the scope has been broadened in a most positive way. Au revoir y adios!

Marnie Terhune
Director, Center for Outreach,
Volunteerism & Education

The Partnership for Community Development

The Partnership for Community Development (PCD) is a not-for-profit community organization that focuses on sustainable economic development for the village and town of Hamilton. Junior Alden Ellis conducted preliminary research this summer for a team of outside consultants hired by the PCD to create a long-range economic development plan for the area. In his research, he created a business study that tracks gross sales numbers from 24 area businesses in order to gain a better understanding

of the impact that local events have on local sales. He also developed a "Trailing Partner" survey which was distributed to the over 200 Colgate faculty members and Hamilton medical care providers that will provide insight on how Colgate and Community Memorial Hospital affect the labor market in the region. Ellis will continue to analyze this data through the fall semester as an independent study.



Tori Theisen used discarded library books as part of a children's program for BRiDGES. (photo by Betsy Busche)

BRiDGES – Madison County Council on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse

Senior Tori Theisen worked on several programs this summer for BRiDGES, all of which are focused on developing healthier communities in Madison County. "Altered Books" is a BRiDGES program that collects discarded hardcover library books and invites local children to use them as a medium for their ideas on the five tenets of Madison County's Promise: Healthy Start, Caring Adults, Marketable Skills, Safe Places, and Opportunities to Serve. "Strengthening Families" is an established program offered by BRiDGES aimed at improving general parenting practices, forming closer bonds between parent and child, and providing tools for both adult and youth to prevent substance abuse. "Hot Summer Learning" is a youth training day on topics such as tobacco media campaigns, bullying, healthy lifestyles, and basic substance abuse facts.

The Exhibition Alliance

Senior Anne Newton worked with The Exhibition Alliance to design a traveling art exhibition for the Madison County Historical Society in commemoration of the Madison County Bicentennial celebration planned for 2006. The exhibition is comprised of banners devoted to each of the sixteen villages and towns in Madison County that will be displayed in various venues throughout the year. Each banner documents the history of the village or town and recognizes its contributions to the character of Madison County. They also include historical photographs chosen by the historian of each village or town and are on loan to the Madison County Historical Society and The Exhibition Alliance. The banners will provide a visually and textually interactive experience to visitors and residents of Madison County in a celebration of the rich history of the region.

Chenango Summer Music Fest and Hamilton Music Mix

Junior Daniel Prial spent his summer working on two local festivals: the Chenango Summer Music Fest, organized by the Colgate Music Department, and the Hamilton Music Mix, organized by the Partnership for Community Development. In addition to working on the organization and logistics of each festival, Prial researched other music festivals in order to understand how these



Daniel Prial helps the PCD organize the Hamilton Music Mix. (photo by Tim Sofranko)

two festivals could be improved. He surveyed residents and visitors to Hamilton to gauge the economic and cultural impact of each festival on the local community.

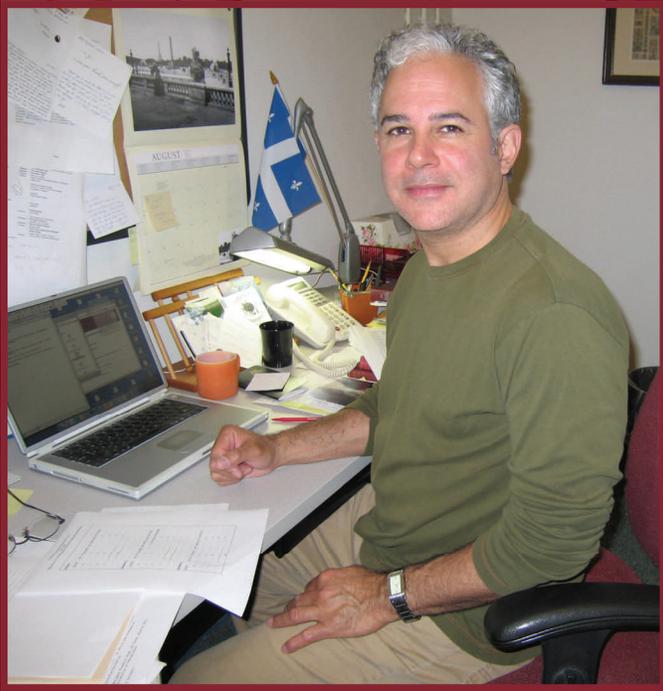


Darcy Richardson analyzed New York State child care regulations for the Madison County Department of Social Services. (photo by Betsy Busche)

Madison County Department of Social Services

Senior Darcy Richardson researched the impact of proposed child care regulations for informal child care providers for the Madison County Department of Social Services. Her research looked at the regulations that informal providers (those that care for only a few children in a private setting) must meet to receive government funding. Richardson considers the impact these new regulations might have on cost, availability and quality of child care in Madison County. She also worked on a project that focuses on “child-only” welfare recipients in Madison County. Their project was a follow-up study of work originally done by Cornell University that attempted to understand the backgrounds, needs, services used, and potential of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) recipients. Richardson continues her work this fall with a similar survey of the approximately 75 cases of this type in Madison County. She plans to assess how the Department of Social Services can better assist these children.

Upstate Fellow Profile



John A. Gallucci is Associate Professor of Romance Languages & Literatures at Colgate University. He teaches renaissance and classical French literature. In recent years, his research has led to the writings of the early French explorers of the “New World,” and to an interest in the long tradition of French travel writing from early America. In the summer of 2003, he attended an NEH Summer Institute at the Newberry Library in Chicago on this subject. Professor Gallucci is currently working on a scholarly edition of the *Castorland Journal*, which tells the story of a group of French political refugees who, in the 1790’s, attempt to settle a tract of land in the Western Adirondacks. This edition is based on a fresh translation of the original text. Recently, he organized a panel discussion on “Upstate New York as Literary Inspiration.” His research has led to the creation of a new course, *From New York to New France: French Travel Writing as a Literary Genre*, to be taught at Colgate next year. Professor Gallucci is also engaged in the COVE’s Elementary Foreign Language Program at Hamilton Central School in which over sixty students in grades K-3 are studying French or Spanish with the help of Colgate students.

Faculty Fellows

David Baird, *Director, Innovative Technology Solutions for Learning*
Josh Baker, *Co-Director of Outdoor Education*
Molly Baker, *Co-Director of Outdoor Education*
Pete Banner-Haley, *Associate Professor of History*
Raj Bellani, *Dean of the Sophomore Year Experience*
Adam Burnett, *Associate Professor of Geography*
Don Duggan-Haas, *Assistant Professor of Educational Studies*
Rob Figueroa, *Assistant Professor of University Studies*
John Gallucci, *Associate Professor of Romance Languages and Literatures*
Karen Harpp, *Associate Professor of Geology*
Dierk Hoffman, *Professor of German*
Doug Johnson, *Associate Professor of Psychology*
Kay Johnston, *Professor of Educational Studies & Women’s Studies*
Takao Kato, *Professor of Economics and Presidential Scholar*
Jordy Kerber, *Associate Professor of Anthropology and Native American Studies*
Peter Klepeis, *Assistant Professor of Geography*
Meika Loe, *Assistant Professor of Sociology & Anthropology and Women’s Studies*
Bill Meyer, *A. Lindsay O’Connor Associate Professor of Geography*
Christine Miller Kelly, *Assistant Director of the Office of Undergraduate Studies*
Carol Ann Lorenz, *Senior Curator of the Longyear Museum of Anthropology*
Sasha Nakhimovsky, *Associate Professor of Computer Science*
Jaime Nolan, *Director of the Office of Undergraduate Studies*
Jo Anne Pagano, *Professor of Educational Studies*
John Palmer, *Assistant Professor of Educational Studies*
Beth Parks, *Associate Professor of Physics and Astronomy*
Jane Pinchin, *Bartlett Chair and Professor of English*
Peter Scull, *Assistant Professor of Geography*
Nicole Simpson, *Assistant Professor of Economics*
Don Waldman, *Richard M. Kessler Professor of Economic Studies*

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Steve Winschel, Elementary Principal, Hamilton Central School